

THE PEACE MOVEMENT.

Arrival of the Rebel Commissioners at Fortress Monroe.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN GOES TO MEET THEM.

A THOUSAND AND ONE RUMORS.

The Peace Commission—Davis's Agents Not in Washington—Mr. Seward Goes to Meet Them—Probabilities.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 2, 1865.

The Rebel peace talkers did not come to Annapolis. They did not come to Washington. They are not here. But Mr. Seward did go to Annapolis, and from there he did go to Fortress Monroe or City Point. The situation is understood to be this:

Hunter, Stephens, and Campbell are within our lines in an unofficial character, to sit down for a talk with the Representative of Mr. Lincoln's Administration. Their unofficial character gets rid of every trouble. Some questions might be across the threshold of a conference between accredited Commissioners of the Confederate States and the United States.

Mr. Seward will meet them. The reunion will be cheerful and hearty as between old acquaintances long separated by grave and trying events. They will talk of the old times of the old Union. They will talk of the war, of its ravages on both sides, of the duty and policy of terminating it by restoration of fraternal relations. The subject of peace and the possible terms of peace, will be gradually approached. If the burden of the proposition is flung on Mr. Seward, he will kindly set forth the fact of the removal of the slavery question from the consideration of the two belligerents by the passage, through Congress, of the Constitutional Amendment abolishing slavery, and the present ratification of it by all the Northern and Western States in Legislature assembled; will represent the necessity the President is under of maintaining the Union of all the States; the command of the people and his own engagement, and the equal necessity resulting from the force of law and the obligation of political compacts, that binds the President to stand by his proclamations and not to withdraw or radically modify them. It is not necessary to follow the diplomatic Secretary through his subsequent reasoning to persuade the Commissioners that there are, in the generosity of the North, in the social changes in the South caused by the war, in the rewards of conquest of territory under the flag, of the Monroe Doctrine and the necessities of destiny, compensations and satisfactions for what they will give upon returning to the Union.

If the Rebels do not immediately call for their stirrups and cups of Old Rye and go, they will feel their way to the settlement of these two questions: First, if it shall be profitable to their cause for them to come to Washington and here prosecute their mission. Second, if by any efforts of negotiation, or through any necessities of our political, financial or military condition, they can hope to an armistice granted by us, and finally their independence recognized. There is not a Chicago Platform Peace Democrat here who is not ready this morning to buy all the gold he can get at, on his conviction that the three Rebel envoys will find out instantly and unequivocally that they can't get an armistice, and that they won't get independence except they whip it out of us, and that immediately thereafter the Old Rye will be quaffed and the Rebels there be ambulated out of sight one way and Seward ambulated another way, and the real Peace Commissioners, Sherman, Sheridan and Grant, rise up and go to their work of final and effectual pacification.

The President Goes to Join Secretary Seward to Talk with Davis's Commissioners—Deep Feeling in Congress.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 2-6 p. m.

It is positively stated that the President has gone to Annapolis on a summons from Mr. Seward. The rumor has produced a deep feeling in both Houses of Congress.

When and How the President Went to See Davis's Commissioners—The Opinion in Washington—What He Will Offer Foreshadowed in His Serenade Speech.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Feb. 2, 1865-7:30 p. m.

It was at 11 o'clock that Mr. Lincoln started for Annapolis in a special car placed on the road by the Baltimore and Ohio Company, on a few minutes notice. Only one White House attaché accompanied him. Mr. Seward went in the 8:15 train yesterday morning, accompanied by Mr. Chew of the Consular Bureau in the State Department. His departure from Annapolis to Fortress Monroe was accepted as evidence that the Rebel negotiators were within our lines, either there or at City Point.

The sentiment this evening is that Mr. Lincoln will offer to the Rebels a general amnesty and a repeal of the confiscation act. In connection with this, what he said last night at a serenade given to him at the White House has important significance. He said:

He supposed the passage through Congress of the Constitutional Amendment for the abolition of slavery throughout the United States was the occasion to which he was indebted for the honor of this call. [Applause.] The occasion was one of congratulation to the country and the whole world. But there is a task yet before us, to go forward and have consummated by the voice of the States that which Congress had so nobly begun yesterday. [Applause, and cries of "They will do it," etc.] He had the honor to inform those present that

New-York Tribune

VOL. XXIV.....NO. 7,435. NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1865. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

LATE REBEL NEWS.

Extracts From Richmond Papers of Tuesday Last.

The Dispatch says: The enemy's newspapers have lately reported the Tallahassee as captured. She ran into New Inlet just after the capture of Fort Fisher, when discovering that some important change, she knew not then what, had occurred in the military situation, her Commander, Capt. Moffit, put to sea and made good his escape. He touched the South Carolina coast, and put ashore a messenger with dispatches, who has reached this city. The news, if any, brought by this messenger has not been made public.

Information received from South Carolina yesterday morning, is to the effect that Sherman's infantry, with their wagon-trains, are encamped near Evans's Cross Roads, on the road leading toward Grahamville, and on a road running toward Sister's Ferry. A reconnoitering force was reported within four miles of Robertville, which is 50 miles north of Savannah and 5 miles east of the Savannah River. A small force of Yankees landed on Little Britain Island, near Legare's, Saturday night, but were driven off. Gen. Hardee telegraphs that the enemy crossed at Springfield on the night of the 26th inst., and moved forward in two columns on the morning of the 27th. He also reports that all attempts to cross the Combahee River have so far failed.

Gen. Taylor reports that the enemy in small force came toward Clinton from Baton Rouge and Bayou Sara, and returned. Activity is reported on the Mississippi River. Troops are going up and down. Most of Thomas's army are reported to have marched west from Columbia and Clinton on the Tennessee River. A portion of these forces, including A. J. Smith's, are said to be in the vicinity of Huntsville and Eastport.

There is no change in the fleet off Mobile. The enemy are still leaving Passengers.

An accidental fire at Summit, Miss., on the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Western Railroad, on Friday morning, destroyed 23 houses and 600 bales of cotton, with a quantity of commissary and other stores. Summit is 75 miles south of Jackson, in Pike County. Before the war it contained two hotels and twelve stores.

In the House of Representatives on Monday, Mr. Mackin introduced a preamble and resolutions setting forth that it is reported that the Federal authorities in Nashville are practicing most barbarous treatment on our prisoners, curtailing their diet to hard tack and water, and treating them in such manner as to cause their death by degrees; and instructing the special committee on the exchange of prisoners to inquire and report upon said complaints. The resolutions were adopted.

From The Daily Enquirer, Jan. 30.

The newspapers of the enemy begin to appreciate the "terrible earnestness" of the people of these States. What opened their eyes was the great unanimity with which they have responded to our people. Had there been any great opposition; had there been any halting and holding back; had this people evinced a low, mean spirit of aversion, rather than a high and holy love of liberty, their hearts have been under a heavy load, but at a contest of endurance—and that perseverance must be the end conquer and subdue any people who would debate the holy and sacred cause of liberty beneath that of property. The New York News, commenting on the policy of peace, says: "The terrible earnestness of the people of these States, who have sacrificed their domestic affection they have already sacrificed in pursuit of that purpose. They propose now to give up for its accomplishment an immense interest that has found deep root in their political position, and which they have been so long and so deeply attached to. They are determined to follow out, at even the cost of the sacrifice of the institution of slavery! If the President is capable of rising superior to the passions of the moment, he will be inflamed by the patriotic ardor, they stand determined to follow out, at even the cost of the sacrifice of the institution of slavery! If the President is capable of rising superior to the passions of the moment, he will be inflamed by the patriotic ardor, they stand determined to follow out, at even the cost of the sacrifice of the institution of slavery!"

"Slavery lies at the foundation of Southern society and all the interests of the Confederacy. Prejudice and pride hedge it round about the Southern soil. Attachment and duty have engrained it in the Confederacy, side by side with domestic affection. To pluck that system from their hearts, to tear it from their very souls, is a task which even blood fanaticism must stand against."

"The South declares that she fights for her freedom. The sincerity of that declaration, she proposes now to place under the proof of a sublime sacrifice. They are determined to give up their property, their domestic affection, their domestic affection they have already sacrificed in pursuit of that purpose. They propose now to give up for its accomplishment an immense interest that has found deep root in their political position, and which they have been so long and so deeply attached to. They are determined to follow out, at even the cost of the sacrifice of the institution of slavery! If the President is capable of rising superior to the passions of the moment, he will be inflamed by the patriotic ardor, they stand determined to follow out, at even the cost of the sacrifice of the institution of slavery!"

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